

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings include changes to Fig. 15. This sheet, which includes Fig. 15 replaces the original sheet including Fig. 15. The designation "PRIOR ART" has been added to Fig. 15.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

After the foregoing amendment, claims 1-24, as amended, are pending in the application. As a result of the restriction requirement the species of Fig. 1 has been elected with traverse. In addition Applicants submit that amended claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 15 read on the elected Figure 1.

Drawings

Applicants have attached a Submission of Proposed Drawing Amendment, including a correction to Fig. 15 designating Fig. 15 as prior art.

The Present Invention

Fig. 1 is a block diagram of a first embodiment of a transmission apparatus (first terminal apparatus) for transmitting video information, and Fig. 2 is a block diagram of a receiving and display apparatus (second terminal apparatus) which receives the signal transmitted by the transmission apparatus of Fig. 1 (see pages 25-35). The transmission apparatus compresses the video information according to a predetermined rule and the receiving apparatus expands the compressed video information according to the inverse of the rule.

Figs. 6 and 7 are, respectively, block diagrams of a second embodiment of a transmission apparatus (first terminal apparatus) for transmitting video information, and a receiving and display apparatus (second terminal apparatus) which receives the signal transmitted by the transmission apparatus. (see pages 47-59).

The first and the second embodiments, are identical in respect to the fact that only data corresponding to pixels whose values have changed are transmitted from the first terminal apparatus to the second terminal apparatus. The first embodiment and the second embodiment differ only in respect to the fact that in the first embodiment, the first terminal apparatus transmits the current values of the pixels that have changed, and in the second embodiment, the differences in value between the prior pixel and the current pixel are transmitted. Table I summarizes the operation of the first and the second embodiments:

Table I

embodiment	prior pixel data	current pixel data	transmit?	transmitted data
1	5	5	No	-
2	5	5	No	-
1	5	3	Yes	3
2	5	3	yes	3-5=-2

Response to Election Requirement

The Examiner stated that Figs. 1, 2, 6, 7 and 15 correspond to five patentably distinct species and is requiring that Applicants elect a single one of the aforementioned species. Applicants traverse the election requirement and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the election of species requirement, for the reasons stated below.

Applicants first submit that the election requirement is in error because Fig. 15, as clearly stated on page 4 of the application, is prior art. Thus, Fig. 15 does not correspond to one of Applicants' inventions.

In order to restrict examination of the application to a single species, the restricted species must be independent and patentably distinct from the other species. In order to find that species are patentably distinct, the claimed inventions must: (a) not overlap in scope; (b) must not be obvious variants and (3) either not capable of use together or have materially different modes of operation, design, function or effect (MPEP 806.05(j)).

The inventions of Figs. 1 and 2 are respectively transmitter and receiver which are required to be used together, (i.e. not separately usable) and have common modes of operation. Accordingly, the claimed inventions of Figs. 1 and 2 are not patentably distinct. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the requirement for election between the species of Figs. 1 and 2 be withdrawn.

Claims 7, 9, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22 and 24 read on Fig. 2. Accordingly, because the species of Figs. 1 and 2 are not patentably distinct, Applicants respectfully request that claims 7, 9, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22 and 24, readable on Fig. 2, be examined in addition to the elected claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 15.

We note further that the inventions of Figs. 6 and 7 are related in the same way as are the inventions of Figs. 1 and 2 and thus are also not patentably distinct. Consequently, because

the inventions of Figs. 6 and 7 are not patentably distinct, Applicants respectfully request that the requirement for election between the species of Figs. 6 and 7 be withdrawn.

We also note that species of Figs. 1 and 2 are related (not independent) to the species of Figs. 6 and 7 because the inventions of Figs. 1 and 2 and the inventions of Figs 6 and 7 are connected in at least one structure and one effect. Specifically, both the first terminal apparatus of shown in Figs. 1 and 6 include a level information generating part, a memory part, a region extraction part an update region level information generating part, a compression part and communication part and differ only by the update region level information generating and the compression parts of Fig. 6 including differential information. Similarly, both the second terminal apparatus shown in Figs. 2 and 7 include a communication part, an expansion part, a memory part and a display part and differ only by Fig. 7 including a level information updating part, a communication part which receives differential information and an expansion part which expands the compressed differential information. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the requirement for election of between the species 1 and 2 and the species of Figs 6 and 7 be withdrawn.

Claims 2, 8, 11, 17, 20 and 23 read on at least one of Figs. 1, 2, 6 or 7.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request examination of claims 2, 8, 11, 17, 20 and 23 in addition to elected claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 15.

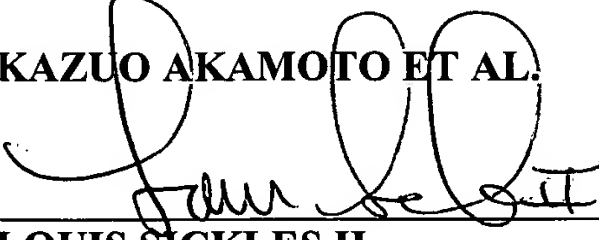
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Response to Office Action of October 13, 2005

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing election, prompt examination of claims 1- 24 and allowance of the application is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 10, 2005 By: 
(Date)

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